

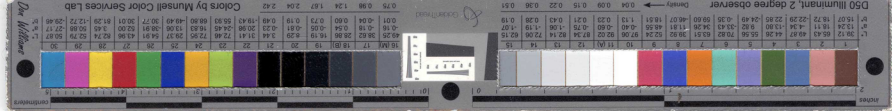
[1]

# To the Members of the Library Company of Philadelphia

In presenting their annual report the Directors would call attention to the fact that on the first day of next July the Library Company will complete the one hundred and fiftieth year of its existence; the Articles of Association, by which it was definitely founded, having been agreed on the corresponding day in the year 1781. The present meeting therefore possesses a special interest for the Members, as it may be considered, in a certain sense, as the celebration of a very important anniversary. Did time permit it would be a pleasant task to trace the progress of the Company, not always prosperous, from its modest beginning shortly afterwards in a room over the kitchen of a house, which was situated in Market St. below Second, at that time one of the most eligible positions in the city, and which was the dwelling of Robert Grace, one of its founders and staunchest friends down to the present time. A history such as this would <sup>exceed</sup> ~~exceed~~ the limits usually allowed to an annual report, and is doubtless familiar to many among you. It has, moreover, been recently written by the Librarian and will shortly appear in a printed form.

The new building after an occupation of a little more than a year has been found in the main to answer admirably the purposes for which







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it was designed. Experience has, however, shown the necessity for a few alterations and additions. One of the most important of these was the construction of additional means of drainage. Unfortunately, there is no sewer in Lonsdale St. and the two wells situated on the front of the lot, which it was believed would be a sufficient outlet for it, proved inadequate to carry off all the water coming from the building during the heavy rains which occurred at the close of last winter. It was therefore necessary to dig two more wells, this with the cost of the necessary drain pipe involved a large outlay of money. but the improvement was necessary to prevent the flooding of the cellar with water.

Another alteration, now under consideration, is the opening of a door in the rear wall of the building, directly opposite the principal door of entrance, and the construction of a veranda along a portion of the north <sup>front</sup> wall to which this door will give access. This and the covering of a portion of the skylight eave, it is thought, conduce very materially to the comfort of those who visit the Library, and especially of those who spend much time in reading there during the summer months, by rendering the main hall much cooler than was the case last year.

With regard to the pecuniary condition of the Library Company the following statement is furnished by the Treasurer







# Receipts

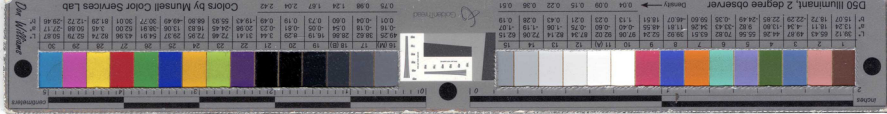
[3]

Balance from last Year	1707.68
Interest	206.84
Rent of Law Buildings	2550. -
" from Central Trust Co	3000. -
Yearly Payments	7791.73
" Subscriptions	184. -
Duplicates sold	41.07
Legacy from Pusey Fraser & Co	1000. -
	<u>16487.32</u>

# Expenditures

Books	3782.14
Bridging	963.02 4945.16
Salaries	3620. -
Expenses & Repairs	1779.19
Insurance	357.50
Taxes & Water Rent	1140.92
Fitting up new Building	3156.22
Competition on Lease	40. -
Balance	<u>1082.33</u> 16487.32





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(4)  
3

It will be seen from the above that the income of the Library Company has been materially increased by the lease of the old building a fifth fl. for a term of years to the Central News Company for \$4000= per annum, which, after deduction of taxes, yields the sum of \$3000=

The condition of the Loganian and Ridgway Trusts is also satisfactory. The income derived from the ~~former~~ <sup>latter</sup> has increased during the past year a notable accession is consequence of the death of one of the annuitants under the will of D. Rush

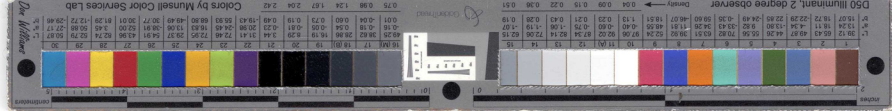
The following is the record kept by the Librarian, of the number of visitors to the Library and readers during the last twelve months

See next sheet - 42









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## Library company of Philadelphia.

Report of attendance, Book circulation, &c., for Library year, beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> 1880, ending April 30<sup>th</sup> 1881.

No. of days open 306.

Whole number of persons using or visiting the Library:

### Members.

Males. 31004.

Females. 21446.

52450.

### Visitors.

Males. 19851.

Females. 5960.

23811.

### Messengers.

9156.

\*

Total

83417.

Average Daily attendance

272+

" Monthly "

6951+

Whole number of books taken out

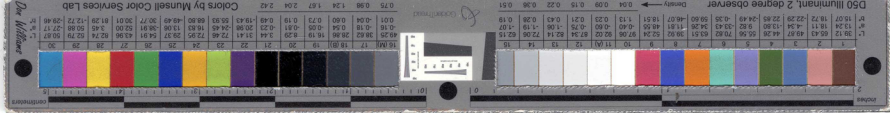
34304.

Daily average " " " "

112+

\* attendance for year ending May 1<sup>st</sup> 1880  
was 77825 difference in favor of this year 5.592





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Library Company of Philadelphia

Report of the Librarian, 1880-1881  
The following is a list of the books  
received during the year 1880-1881

Books of 1880-1881

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received during the year 1880-1881

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Books of 1880-1881

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1880-1881  
The following is a list of the books  
received during the year 1880-1881



Largest monthly attendance April 1881. 12927.  
Smallest " " July 1880. 3611.

Largest daily attendance. April 23. 1881. 984.  
Smallest " " Aug. 25. 1880. 51.

Whole number of books added to Library:-

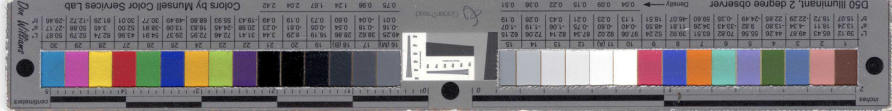
By purchase	1325.
" gift	<u>184</u>
Total books	<u>1509.</u>
" volumes	<u>1729.</u>

catalogue cards distributed-

copied at Locust St.	6975.
" " Ridgway Branch	<u>6921.</u>
Total no. of cards.	<u>13896.</u>

Monthly average 1158.  
Daily " 45+.





Lowest monthly attendance April 1881  
2 months  
July 1880  
3011

Lowest monthly attendance April 1881  
2 months  
July 1880  
3011

Whole number of books added to library

Gift purchase 1882  
1881  
Total books 1880  
1881

Coloque books distributed

Books at lowest 1881  
Gift purchase 1881  
1880

Monthly average 1881  
1880



# Bidgway Branch.

Report of attendance, &c. for Library year  
beginning May 1<sup>st</sup> 1880. ending April 30<sup>th</sup> 1881.

No. of days open 291.

## Readers.

Male	1632.	
Female	<u>224</u>	1856.

## Visitors (other than readers)

Male	4092.	
Female	<u>1829</u>	<u>5921.</u>
Total		<u>7777.</u>

Daily average (of people) 28+

## Book circulation.

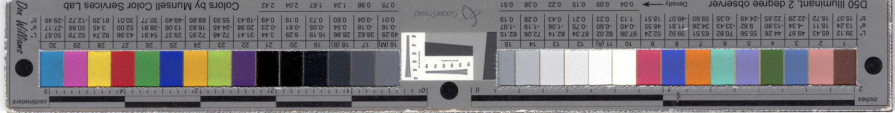
Used in building	5590.	
Given out	<u>1269.</u>	
Total		<u>6859.</u>

Daily average (of books) 25+

## Books added to Branch:-

By purchase	35	Total.
.. gift	<u>450.</u>	<u>485.</u>





Blonding Process

Report of observations, re. for Blonding process  
beginning about 1880 ending about 1881

Qto of Blonding 5 ft

Reaches

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

1881

Good circulation

1881

1881

1881

1881

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Books added to General

1881

1881



These Statistics show a considerable increase in the number of visitors over that of the preceding year. This increase would have been doubtless <sup>expected</sup> ~~much~~ <sup>greater</sup> than it is, but for two circumstances: 1. The exceptional heat of last summer, & the fact that the Statistics of last year <sup>are</sup> included the visitors during the months which immediately succeeded the opening of the new building, when an unusually large number were attracted to it by curiosity. It has thus been found that the removal of the Library to its present site has not been attended with the disadvantage it was feared it might <sup>be</sup> by some of its members. Its situation is, however, "more remote from the business centres of the city than the former one and to visit it for the purpose of taking out books is, therefore, attended with more inconvenience to a large number of stockholders. This will especially be the case during the summer months when many of them are living out of town and come <sup>into the city</sup> solely for the transaction of business. It has occurred to the Directors that this inconvenience might be, in part, at least, overcome by the connection of the two library buildings with the <sup>Bell's Telephone & Exchange</sup> ~~General Telephone System~~ of the city. As there are few persons who do not have access to a telephone, members will be enabled by this arrangement either to have the book they would send to their place of business, or to save themselves the loss of time in going for a book which may happen to be out.





These statistics show a considerable increase  
in the number of patients admitted to the hospital  
this increase being due to the fact that  
of patients too ill to be treated at home  
admission of patients from the out-patient  
wards which necessitates the opening of the  
new building when a number of large numbers  
admitted to it of course. It is the fact  
that the number of the hospital is increased  
and that the character of the hospital is  
in places it might be said of the number of  
admitted patients, these numbers from the hospital  
concern of the city the hospital is a very  
is for the purpose of taking in patients, and  
these but have been necessary to a large number  
of the hospital, the all especially to the case  
during the summer months when many of the  
are being as of late as one is left for the  
transference of patients, it is necessary to the  
admission that the transference might be a far  
it has been the transference of the patients  
during this time with transference of patients  
of the city. It is the fact that the number of the  
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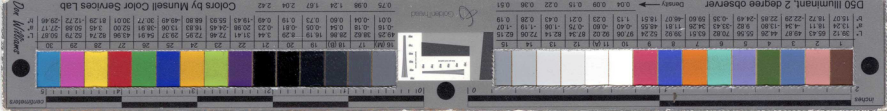


By the will of the Late Reuben Frazer \$1000 =  
was bequeathed to the Library Company. This has been  
paid by his executors within the past year <sup>with the</sup>  
deduction on account of taxes and has been <sup>appropriated</sup> ~~expended~~  
in meeting a deficiency in the building fund.

Under Dr. Rush's will the number of shares is "limited  
to those actually issued at the time of my (his) death"  
and since a few shares are forfeited for non payment  
of dues almost every year the membership will  
dwindle indefinitely unless they are reissued. Since  
Dr. Rush's death forty shares have been actually thus  
forfeited, of which thirteen have been reissued by  
paying of the back dues. Therefore the Directors  
ask the members to enact the following by-law

When the fines and dues on any share amount to  
more than twenty-dollars at any one time, and the  
holder on being notified thereof shall fail to dis-  
charge the same within one month, it shall be lawful  
for the Directors, instead of forfeiting the share to  
sell the same at public sale for the account and  
at the risk of the holder, without further notice,  
and deduct the amount due out of the proceeds of the  
sale







[10]

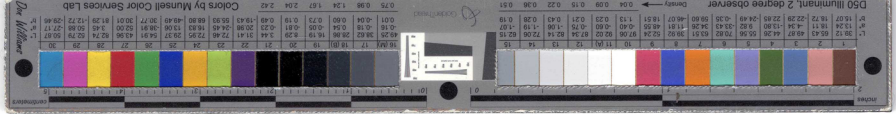
The Board sustained during last year a severe loss in the deaths of two of its oldest and most useful members, Mr. Peter the Call and Mr Henry Thorton

Mr. the Call has elected a member of the Board in the year 1857 and during his long term of service was regular in his attendance at its meetings and always cheerfully performed the duties — sometimes not a little onerous — which fell to his lot. While the citizens of Philadelphia in general lament the removal from the community of a gentleman distinguished in his profession, of perfect integrity of character, and remarkable for all the virtues which can adorn a man and a Christian, his friends at this Board will never cease to hold him kindly remembrance the cultivated intellect, the refinement of manner and the courteous consideration for others which characterized him in social intercourse.

It would be almost impossible to place too high an estimate on the services which Mr. Thorton rendered to this Company as a member of its Board of Directors from the time of his election in 1802 until his death in November. Last he manifested the liveliest interest in its welfare. This interest although never wanting <sup>he</sup> was especially displayed <sup>as</sup> a member of the Committee <sup>who</sup> whose superintendence the building was created. The Board feels that in his death the Company <sup>has</sup> lost a friend and counsellor, to whose sagacity and wisdom is largely owing much of its present prosperity and hence therefore thought it proper to mark its appreciation of his services by having his portrait painted and hung in a prominent position in the main hall of the Library.

The vacancies in the Board created by the deaths of these two gentlemen were filled by the election of Mr. Wm Henry Rawle and Mr Charles Allen.





The Board of Directors of the American  
Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions  
has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of  
your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to  
the proposed mission to the  
Islands of the Pacific. The Board  
has considered the same and has decided  
to appoint a committee to investigate  
the feasibility of such a mission.  
The committee will consist of  
Messrs. [names] and will report  
to the Board at its next meeting.  
Very respectfully,  
[Signature]

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[11]

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Library Co  
of  
Philadelphia

Annual  
Report

May 1881.

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Hippincott & Co.,  
Stationers,